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[54] **MULTI-STAGE POLYMER PARTICLES
HAVING A
HYDROPHOBICALLY-MODIFIED,
IONICALLY-SOLUBLE STAGE**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **525/301; 525/302;**
525/312

[58] **Field of Search** **525/301, 302, 312**

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,421,902 12/1983 Chang et al. 526/317

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

Multi-stage polymer particles comprising at least one hydrophobically-modified, ionically-soluble polymer stage polymerized from a) hydrophobic monomer, b) ethylenically-unsaturated, ionizable monomer, c) non-ionic, ethylenically-unsaturated monomer and optionally d) multi-functional compound are improved thickeners.

1 Claim, No Drawings